

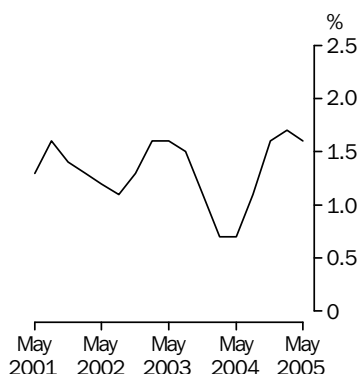
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

AUSTRALIA

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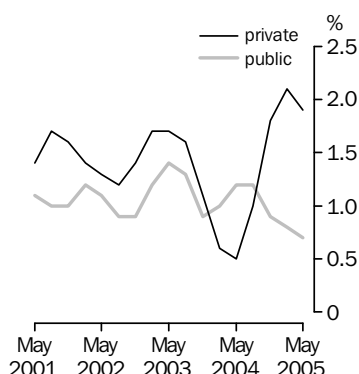
Full-time adult total earnings

Quarterly % change in trend estimates
All Sectors



Full-time adult total earnings

Quarterly % change in trend estimates
Private and Public



INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Manpreet Singh on Perth (08) 9360 5304.

KEY FIGURES

	May 2005 \$	Feb 2005 to May 2005 % change	May 2004 to May 2005 % change
TREND ESTIMATES			
Private & public sectors			
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	1 008.10	1.6	5.8
Full-time adult total earnings	1 060.80	1.6	6.2
All employees total earnings	793.60	1.5	5.5
Private sector			
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	983.20	1.9	6.4
Full-time adult total earnings	1 042.10	1.9	7.0
Public sector			
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	1 090.20	0.7	3.7
Full-time adult total earnings	1 124.00	0.7	3.6

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES

Private & public sectors			
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	1 008.30	1.5	6.0
Full-time adult total earnings	1 059.70	1.3	6.5
All employees total earnings	792.90	1.1	5.8
Private sector			
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	982.70	1.6	6.6
Full-time adult total earnings	1 040.00	1.3	7.3
Public sector			
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	1 092.10	1.2	4.1
Full-time adult total earnings	1 126.50	1.2	4.1

KEY POINTS

TREND ESTIMATES

- Full-time adult ordinary time earnings rose by 5.7% for males and 5.9% for females in the twelve months to May 2005.
- In the twelve months to May 2005, full-time adult total earnings rose by 6.4% for males and 5.7% for females.
- Full-time adult ordinary time earnings for the private and public sectors rose by 6.4% and 3.7% respectively in the twelve months to May 2005.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE (Quarter)

RELEASE DATE

August 2005

17 November 2005

November 2005

23 February 2006

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FORTHCOMING CHANGES

CONCURRENT SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

From the August 2005 issue of this publication, the ABS will use concurrent seasonal adjustment in the Survey of Average Weekly Earnings (AWE), replacing the forward factor adjustment method currently used to produce seasonally adjusted estimates. Concurrent seasonal adjustment uses original data up to and including the current quarter to update seasonal factors each quarter, whereas the forward factor adjustment method only updates seasonal factors annually.

As a result of the quarterly updating of seasonal factors, seasonally adjusted estimates will be revised each quarter under the concurrent adjustment method, compared with annual revisions under the forward factor method. However, the degree of revision will generally be less under the concurrent adjustment method (i.e. initial seasonally adjusted estimates will be closer on average to their final values), as any change in seasonality will be picked up sooner.

NOTES ON ESTIMATES

COMPOSITIONAL EFFECTS

Movements in average weekly earnings can be affected by both changes in the level of earnings per employee and changes in the composition of the labour force. For example, changes in the proportions of full-time, part-time, casual and junior employees and variations in the distribution of occupations can affect movements in earnings series. Refer to paragraphs 18 and 19 of the Explanatory Notes.

SAMPLING ERROR

For information on sampling error see the Technical Note at the end of this publication. Standard errors for the original estimates contained in this publication are in tables 18 to 20.

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ABBREVIATIONS

ABN	Australian Business Number
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ANZSIC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
ATO	Australian Taxation Office
AWE	average weekly earnings
GE	group employer
PAYGW	pay-as-you-go withholding
TAU	type of activity unit
WPI	wage price index

Dennis Trewin
Australian Statistician

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AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS: Trend

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
2004									
February	999.40	1 063.10	895.50	847.50	862.50	586.30	945.40	991.70	748.40
May	1 007.20	1 070.10	898.10	855.00	870.10	591.80	952.90	998.70	752.40
August	1 017.20	1 082.00	903.80	864.20	879.30	598.50	962.40	1 009.60	758.70
November	1 031.60	1 100.30	915.90	876.60	891.70	606.90	976.40	1 026.00	769.60
2005									
February	1 047.90	1 119.80	930.20	890.90	905.90	615.50	992.20	1 043.90	781.80
May	1 064.20	1 138.10	944.30	905.40	920.20	623.60	1 008.10	1 060.80	793.60
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)									
2004									
February	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.8	0.9	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.7
May	0.8	0.7	0.3	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.5
August	1.0	1.1	0.6	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.1	0.8
November	1.4	1.7	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.4
2005									
February	1.6	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.4	1.6	1.7	1.6
May	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.3	1.6	1.6	1.5
CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)									
2003									
May	5.8	5.9	5.4	5.3	5.4	4.6	5.6	5.7	5.1
2004									
May	3.6	3.9	2.9	4.2	4.4	4.3	3.8	4.1	3.8
2005									
May	5.7	6.4	5.1	5.9	5.7	5.4	5.8	6.2	5.5

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS: Seasonally adjusted

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
2004									
February	1 001.50	1 066.20	897.80	849.60	865.00	587.20	948.00	995.10	750.50
May	1 005.50	1 065.20	892.90	853.80	868.90	590.80	951.00	994.70	749.20
August	1 016.80	1 082.90	907.70	863.90	878.80	598.00	961.90	1 010.00	759.90
November	1 030.80	1 098.50	910.70	875.80	890.50	606.80	975.70	1 024.40	767.00
2005									
February	1 048.60	1 122.90	933.60	891.10	906.90	616.80	993.10	1 046.60	784.50
May	1 064.60	1 136.70	944.50	906.30	920.30	622.70	1 008.30	1 059.70	792.90
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)									
2004									
February	0.9	0.8	0.4	1.3	1.4	1.0	1.1	1.0	0.7
May	0.4	-0.1	-0.6	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.0	-0.2
August	1.1	1.7	1.7	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.5	1.4
November	1.4	1.4	0.3	1.4	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.4	0.9
2005									
February	1.7	2.2	2.5	1.7	1.8	1.6	1.8	2.2	2.3
May	1.5	1.2	1.2	1.7	1.5	1.0	1.5	1.3	1.1
CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)									
2003									
May	6.5	6.4	5.6	5.9	5.9	5.1	6.3	6.2	5.6
2004									
May	2.8	3.0	2.2	3.7	3.9	3.8	3.1	3.3	3.0
2005									
May	5.9	6.7	5.8	6.1	5.9	5.4	6.0	6.5	5.8

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS: Original

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
2004									
February	1 000.70	1 064.00	900.10	851.00	865.60	591.70	947.80	993.90	754.30
May	1 004.80	1 065.30	891.20	851.20	866.30	588.50	949.50	993.60	746.30
August	1 016.90	1 081.20	906.30	865.90	881.10	598.70	962.90	1 009.70	759.70
November	1 032.20	1 102.70	911.60	875.00	890.40	604.00	976.40	1 027.30	766.40
2005									
February	1 047.80	1 120.60	936.00	892.50	907.60	621.50	992.90	1 045.30	788.50
May	1 064.00	1 136.90	942.70	903.50	917.50	620.20	1 006.70	1 058.50	789.70
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)									
2004									
February	0.7	0.3	0.6	1.6	1.5	2.3	1.0	0.7	1.4
May	0.4	0.1	-1.0	0.0	0.1	-0.5	0.2	0.0	-1.1
August	1.2	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.4	1.6	1.8
November	1.5	2.0	0.6	1.0	1.1	0.9	1.4	1.7	0.9
2005									
February	1.5	1.6	2.7	2.0	1.9	2.9	1.7	1.8	2.9
May	1.6	1.5	0.7	1.2	1.1	-0.2	1.4	1.3	0.2
CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)									
2003									
May	6.5	6.4	5.6	5.8	5.9	5.0	6.3	6.2	5.5
2004									
May	2.8	3.0	2.2	3.6	3.9	3.8	3.1	3.3	2.9
2005									
May	5.9	6.7	5.8	6.1	5.9	5.4	6.0	6.5	5.8

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Private sector: **Trend**

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
2004									
February	975.60	1 042.40	864.30	797.50	812.80	526.70	918.40	968.70	711.40
May	981.50	1 047.40	864.30	803.00	818.50	531.00	923.80	973.60	713.50
August	989.90	1 058.20	868.10	811.10	826.50	536.90	932.10	983.40	718.30
November	1 004.70	1 077.80	880.50	825.10	840.40	545.90	947.10	1 001.40	730.00
2005									
February	1 022.40	1 099.40	896.30	842.60	857.60	555.50	965.00	1 022.20	743.90
May	1 040.50	1 119.90	912.10	860.70	875.30	564.70	983.20	1 042.10	757.50
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)									
2004									
February	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.6	0.6	0.6
May	0.6	0.5	0.0	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.3
August	0.9	1.0	0.4	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.9	1.0	0.7
November	1.5	1.8	1.4	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.8	1.6
2005									
February	1.8	2.0	1.8	2.1	2.1	1.8	1.9	2.1	1.9
May	1.8	1.9	1.8	2.2	2.1	1.7	1.9	1.9	1.8
CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)									
2003									
May	6.2	6.3	5.8	5.4	5.4	4.1	6.0	6.1	5.3
2004									
May	3.3	3.7	2.6	3.9	4.2	4.0	3.6	4.0	3.6
2005									
May	6.0	6.9	5.5	7.2	6.9	6.3	6.4	7.0	6.2

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Private sector: **Seasonally adjusted**

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
2004									
February	978.60	1 046.90	867.90	800.50	816.50	528.20	922.30	973.70	714.90
May	979.70	1 041.90	858.20	802.60	818.10	530.00	921.80	969.10	709.50
August	988.80	1 058.40	872.00	809.40	824.60	535.50	930.70	982.80	719.00
November	1 003.40	1 075.50	874.20	822.90	837.70	545.90	945.30	998.70	726.80
2005									
February	1 023.80	1 103.60	900.50	844.70	861.00	557.10	967.50	1 026.90	747.60
May	1 040.90	1 118.10	912.50	860.80	874.50	563.50	982.70	1 040.00	756.40
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)									
2004									
February	0.9	0.8	0.4	1.4	1.6	1.0	1.2	1.2	0.8
May	0.1	-0.5	-1.1	0.3	0.2	0.4	-0.1	-0.5	-0.8
August	0.9	1.6	1.6	0.8	0.8	1.0	1.0	1.4	1.3
November	1.5	1.6	0.3	1.7	1.6	1.9	1.6	1.6	1.1
2005									
February	2.0	2.6	3.0	2.6	2.8	2.0	2.3	2.8	2.9
May	1.7	1.3	1.3	1.9	1.6	1.1	1.6	1.3	1.2
CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)									
2003									
May	7.0	6.9	6.0	6.1	6.1	4.7	6.8	6.7	5.9
2004									
May	2.5	2.7	1.8	3.4	3.7	3.5	2.8	3.1	2.7
2005									
May	6.2	7.3	6.3	7.3	6.9	6.3	6.6	7.3	6.6

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Private sector: **Original**

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
2004									
February	976.90	1 043.30	868.20	801.90	816.80	531.70	921.10	971.10	716.70
May	979.30	1 042.10	857.00	799.20	814.40	527.40	920.40	967.60	706.60
August	988.90	1 056.90	870.80	811.80	827.20	536.30	931.80	982.80	719.20
November	1 005.60	1 080.90	876.60	822.60	838.50	544.50	946.90	1 003.10	727.90
2005									
February	1 022.00	1 099.80	900.80	846.10	861.50	560.80	966.20	1 024.20	749.50
May	1 040.50	1 118.30	911.10	857.10	870.40	560.60	981.30	1 038.30	753.20
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)									
2004									
February	0.6	0.1	0.2	1.6	1.6	2.0	0.9	0.5	1.0
May	0.2	-0.1	-1.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.8	-0.1	-0.4	-1.4
August	1.0	1.4	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.2	1.6	1.8
November	1.7	2.3	0.7	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6	2.1	1.2
2005									
February	1.6	1.8	2.8	2.9	2.7	3.0	2.0	2.1	3.0
May	1.8	1.7	1.1	1.3	1.0	0.0	1.6	1.4	0.5
CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)									
2003									
May	7.0	6.9	6.0	6.0	6.0	4.6	6.7	6.7	5.8
2004									
May	2.5	2.7	1.8	3.4	3.7	3.5	2.8	3.1	2.7
2005									
May	6.2	7.3	6.3	7.2	6.9	6.3	6.6	7.3	6.6

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Public sector: Trend

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
2004									
February	1 105.90	1 155.60	1 056.20	964.30	978.50	778.00	1 038.70	1 071.50	897.70
May	1 119.70	1 169.80	1 070.50	975.70	990.00	786.60	1 051.50	1 084.70	908.90
August	1 134.40	1 184.20	1 085.60	986.30	1 000.80	795.00	1 064.50	1 097.70	920.50
November	1 147.10	1 196.70	1 097.40	993.90	1 008.40	800.60	1 074.70	1 107.80	928.70
2005									
February	1 157.70	1 207.60	1 105.60	999.80	1 014.50	804.80	1 082.90	1 116.20	934.20
May	1 166.80	1 217.70	1 112.10	1 005.80	1 020.70	809.00	1 090.20	1 124.00	938.90
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)									
2004									
February	1.0	1.1	1.2	0.9	0.9	0.8	1.0	1.0	0.9
May	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2
August	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.3
November	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.7	1.0	0.9	0.9
2005									
February	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.6
May	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.5
CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)									
2003									
May	4.1	4.2	3.9	4.9	5.0	4.6	4.4	4.5	4.1
2004									
May	4.8	4.7	4.8	4.4	4.4	4.1	4.6	4.5	4.3
2005									
May	4.2	4.1	3.9	3.1	3.1	2.8	3.7	3.6	3.3

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Public sector: **Seasonally adjusted**

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
2004									
February	1 105.70	1 154.10	1 053.00	962.90	976.60	774.10	1 038.00	1 069.90	893.90
May	1 117.30	1 168.00	1 070.60	973.80	988.30	787.30	1 049.10	1 082.50	909.10
August	1 136.90	1 188.00	1 087.10	988.80	1 003.50	797.20	1 067.40	1 101.40	922.80
November	1 147.40	1 195.20	1 097.60	997.30	1 011.80	800.80	1 076.50	1 108.70	929.20
2005									
February	1 157.70	1 207.80	1 107.50	993.50	1 007.80	802.70	1 079.70	1 112.80	933.30
May	1 166.40	1 218.20	1 109.70	1 009.80	1 025.10	810.60	1 092.10	1 126.50	939.10
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)									
2004									
February	1.0	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.2	0.9	0.8	0.3
May	1.0	1.2	1.7	1.1	1.2	1.7	1.1	1.2	1.7
August	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.8	1.7	1.5
November	0.9	0.6	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.5	0.9	0.7	0.7
2005									
February	0.9	1.1	0.9	-0.4	-0.4	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4
May	0.8	0.9	0.2	1.6	1.7	1.0	1.2	1.2	0.6
CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)									
2003									
May	4.4	4.3	4.1	5.2	5.2	4.9	4.7	4.6	4.3
2004									
May	4.3	4.5	4.7	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.1
2005									
May	4.4	4.3	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.0	4.1	4.1	3.3

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Public sector: **Original**

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
2004									
February	1 107.20	1 156.60	1 065.70	965.00	978.80	786.70	1 039.90	1 072.40	907.60
May	1 116.30	1 166.70	1 064.70	973.90	988.60	785.30	1 048.80	1 082.40	905.70
August	1 136.50	1 185.10	1 084.10	988.80	1 003.40	794.50	1 066.60	1 099.10	919.20
November	1 147.40	1 196.90	1 093.60	995.00	1 009.30	792.70	1 075.70	1 108.60	922.00
2005									
February	1 158.90	1 210.30	1 120.70	995.60	1 010.10	815.80	1 081.50	1 115.40	947.60
May	1 165.40	1 216.80	1 103.60	1 009.80	1 025.40	808.40	1 091.90	1 126.30	935.50
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)									
2004									
February	1.1	1.0	2.2	1.2	1.1	2.8	1.2	1.0	2.6
May	0.8	0.9	-0.1	0.9	1.0	-0.2	0.9	0.9	-0.2
August	1.8	1.6	1.8	1.5	1.5	1.2	1.7	1.5	1.5
November	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.6	0.6	-0.2	0.8	0.9	0.3
2005									
February	1.0	1.1	2.5	0.1	0.1	2.9	0.5	0.6	2.8
May	0.6	0.5	-1.5	1.4	1.5	-0.9	1.0	1.0	-1.3
CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)									
2003									
May	4.4	4.3	4.1	5.2	5.2	4.9	4.7	4.6	4.3
2004									
May	4.3	4.5	4.7	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.1
2005									
May	4.4	4.3	3.7	3.7	3.7	2.9	4.1	4.1	3.3

Industry	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
Mining	1 627.70	1 742.20	1 714.00	1 189.20	1 225.80	1 109.00	1 581.30	1 687.60	1 642.20
Manufacturing	975.10	1 073.00	1 004.60	810.50	841.90	700.30	941.30	1 025.50	926.00
Electricity, gas and water supply	1 274.60	1 401.80	1 371.90	1 039.00	1 056.00	953.60	1 229.00	1 334.90	1 276.10
Construction	1 016.40	1 146.20	1 064.10	860.80	877.80	573.30	996.80	1 112.50	966.40
Wholesale trade	994.50	1 039.40	941.90	813.60	826.60	670.30	950.90	988.20	861.20
Retail trade	757.10	814.90	557.40	697.20	707.50	381.80	736.70	778.20	468.20
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	723.10	746.00	458.70	674.40	702.60	386.60	703.00	728.10	419.60
Transport and storage	1 066.70	1 170.80	1 107.80	850.10	871.30	704.00	1 013.20	1 096.90	987.10
Communication services	1 110.30	1 165.40	1 079.40	949.70	966.70	768.80	1 062.80	1 106.50	962.40
Finance and insurance	1 530.50	1 537.00	1 432.90	983.70	990.90	827.00	1 254.20	1 261.00	1 086.70
Property and business services	1 128.90	1 211.60	965.40	901.20	906.70	621.50	1 045.60	1 100.00	818.80
Government administration and defence	1 114.90	1 145.80	1 072.80	997.90	1 009.80	835.90	1 064.50	1 087.20	953.50
Education	1 200.10	1 207.90	924.20	1 054.40	1 056.20	746.70	1 109.40	1 113.50	803.00
Health and community services	1 254.90	1 327.10	1 045.40	922.30	948.40	642.80	1 025.70	1 066.00	722.20
Cultural and recreational services	1 149.80	1 174.90	789.10	906.60	921.90	488.80	1 063.20	1 084.80	640.20
Personal and other services	1 040.60	1 092.30	822.10	858.10	873.20	537.70	973.70	1 011.90	684.00
All industries	1 064.00	1 136.90	942.70	903.50	917.50	620.20	1 006.70	1 058.50	789.70

CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)

Mining	4.6	2.3	2.2	3.9	2.8	-0.3	4.7	2.5	2.1
Manufacturing	3.4	3.0	2.6	4.7	3.9	1.7	3.7	3.2	2.0
Electricity, gas and water supply	3.0	3.6	3.6	2.7	2.7	4.9	2.9	3.3	3.9
Construction	9.9	13.0	16.1	6.2	7.2	10.5	9.2	11.8	13.9
Wholesale trade	6.1	6.4	3.6	2.2	2.2	-1.2	5.3	5.6	2.0
Retail trade	2.8	5.9	5.9	6.6	6.9	8.8	4.3	6.6	8.4
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	2.8	3.1	3.6	1.3	2.7	10.3	2.3	3.1	7.6
Transport and storage	8.5	7.7	8.5	4.8	3.3	2.5	7.3	6.2	6.3
Communication services	5.6	4.4	5.0	2.4	2.1	0.3	4.6	3.6	2.8
Finance and insurance	5.5	5.5	4.1	5.4	5.1	5.1	5.4	5.3	4.7
Property and business services	5.9	9.4	7.1	10.2	9.6	4.4	7.5	9.8	6.5
Government administration and defence	5.8	5.5	5.3	5.4	5.4	5.3	5.6	5.4	5.1
Education	5.4	5.6	1.6	5.0	5.0	3.7	5.2	5.3	3.1
Health and community services	7.0	7.6	6.4	4.9	4.8	1.6	5.2	5.3	2.0
Cultural and recreational services	11.3	11.3	0.8	5.5	5.9	0.5	10.1	10.3	1.5
Personal and other services	7.9	8.9	7.0	9.1	9.1	7.3	8.2	8.9	6.6
All industries	5.9	6.7	5.8	6.1	5.9	5.4	6.0	6.5	5.8

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
NEW SOUTH WALES									
2004									
February	1 043.20	1 111.00	938.10	891.60	907.00	638.60	987.70	1 036.20	798.40
May	1 046.10	1 113.00	933.20	900.80	916.80	644.40	992.50	1 040.50	798.80
August	1 049.50	1 116.70	927.50	910.00	926.40	651.20	997.70	1 046.10	799.50
November	1 062.00	1 129.90	935.20	921.20	937.50	658.90	1 010.00	1 059.00	807.90
2005									
February	1 081.70	1 149.20	954.30	935.60	951.50	666.90	1 028.60	1 077.30	822.10
May	1 104.00	1 170.20	978.30	951.00	966.20	674.40	1 049.20	1 097.00	838.30
VICTORIA									
2004									
February	1 007.30	1 072.90	918.30	839.10	856.50	589.00	949.40	998.50	763.40
May	1 016.60	1 082.00	921.80	846.20	864.30	588.90	958.70	1 007.80	764.90
August	1 030.50	1 099.90	935.80	861.70	879.10	591.50	973.80	1 025.90	772.30
November	1 043.60	1 123.10	954.10	880.20	896.60	599.90	988.90	1 047.60	784.80
2005									
February	1 050.00	1 142.10	967.40	894.80	910.70	609.40	997.70	1 064.10	795.10
May	1 050.80	1 155.20	975.90	904.10	919.90	617.80	1 000.80	1 074.50	802.10
QUEENSLAND									
2004									
February	929.90	1 001.20	834.40	803.80	817.50	542.20	885.10	935.00	690.90
May	943.60	1 012.50	844.30	809.80	823.30	551.20	893.90	943.00	699.80
August	954.00	1 021.60	850.80	811.80	825.50	563.70	901.00	949.20	710.30
November	965.20	1 033.60	856.70	820.50	834.20	577.20	912.20	960.00	722.10
2005									
February	980.60	1 048.70	862.50	837.60	850.70	587.40	928.40	975.40	732.00
May	1 000.40	1 065.90	867.70	859.00	871.00	594.50	947.70	993.30	739.40
SOUTH AUSTRALIA									
2004									
February	896.30	941.10	769.60	816.00	829.60	517.40	869.40	903.70	648.70
May	903.40	946.20	771.00	829.00	841.30	522.10	878.80	911.30	652.50
August	918.50	964.40	776.50	839.30	851.90	525.40	892.30	927.50	656.90
November	937.20	987.60	789.00	845.70	860.10	531.30	906.60	945.20	667.30
2005									
February	953.90	1 006.30	804.70	852.90	868.40	539.10	919.50	959.20	681.60
May	968.10	1 021.10	821.80	862.40	878.40	546.00	932.00	971.30	697.10
WESTERN AUSTRALIA									
2004									
February	1 026.20	1 084.40	918.30	793.30	805.20	533.30	946.40	988.70	734.80
May	1 035.20	1 095.60	928.40	798.00	810.50	538.00	954.70	999.00	742.10
August	1 051.90	1 115.10	945.60	800.70	813.70	541.60	967.70	1 014.10	754.00
November	1 076.40	1 142.60	965.80	809.30	822.60	544.80	987.60	1 036.10	767.90
2005									
February	1 102.50	1 171.70	983.40	825.10	838.70	549.00	1 010.80	1 061.70	780.40
May	1 127.60	1 199.30	996.90	845.20	858.40	554.20	1 034.70	1 087.60	789.20

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
TASMANIA									
2004									
February	874.70	918.60	766.60	765.00	775.00	521.40	839.60	872.60	649.90
May	893.60	939.70	788.70	774.80	785.60	539.20	854.10	888.60	669.50
August	912.60	963.20	811.40	786.90	797.50	553.90	869.90	907.00	688.20
November	922.00	976.10	825.40	797.60	808.80	563.50	880.10	919.60	700.30
2005									
February	925.10	980.00	834.10	806.10	819.20	571.30	885.70	926.60	709.30
May	926.10	979.80	840.00	813.10	828.50	580.40	889.40	930.50	718.40
NORTHERN TERRITORY									
2004									
February	991.30	1 047.80	823.10	863.80	880.60	615.80	937.10	977.00	717.30
May	1 008.90	1 066.10	833.50	875.30	891.60	622.10	951.50	990.70	724.50
August	1 029.80	1 089.50	847.40	889.10	905.30	633.80	968.00	1 008.30	737.00
November	1 055.40	1 117.80	870.80	900.40	917.60	643.70	986.20	1 028.70	753.40
2005									
February	1 081.30	1 146.10	902.50	907.60	926.10	648.20	1 004.00	1 048.40	771.00
May	1 106.40	1 173.20	935.40	911.80	931.40	649.60	1 020.70	1 066.40	787.30
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY									
2004									
February	1 142.20	1 162.90	996.10	965.60	973.60	728.80	1 064.90	1 080.50	857.30
May	1 152.20	1 173.90	1 008.30	968.70	976.50	744.30	1 069.80	1 085.70	869.30
August	1 172.30	1 194.30	1 029.00	984.40	991.70	760.70	1 087.10	1 101.90	886.00
November	1 202.10	1 224.60	1 057.20	1 012.50	1 019.70	784.20	1 116.00	1 131.20	911.10
2005									
February	1 232.90	1 256.60	1 083.90	1 041.90	1 049.60	810.00	1 145.90	1 162.90	937.20
May	1 259.90	1 286.50	1 107.60	1 069.70	1 078.20	833.10	1 173.10	1 193.00	960.40

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, States & territories: **Seasonally adjusted**

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
NEW SOUTH WALES									
2004									
February	1 048.40	1 116.80	944.60	895.10	911.40	639.80	993.60	1 042.30	803.20
May	1 046.30	1 110.70	930.90	900.30	916.20	645.30	991.90	1 038.40	797.50
August	1 048.30	1 115.70	930.50	909.50	925.80	648.10	996.90	1 044.80	798.70
November	1 055.80	1 125.60	923.10	920.70	936.50	660.20	1 005.10	1 056.30	803.50
2005									
February	1 084.70	1 151.40	957.30	933.80	950.80	668.10	1 030.70	1 078.40	823.90
May	1 106.00	1 171.80	984.20	953.70	968.10	672.80	1 051.20	1 098.70	840.10
VICTORIA									
2004									
February	1 011.30	1 079.60	916.20	845.00	862.10	590.40	953.50	1 003.70	763.00
May	1 009.90	1 070.90	915.50	840.40	859.00	586.20	952.10	998.10	758.60
August	1 026.20	1 098.20	937.30	859.80	877.90	593.20	970.80	1 024.60	776.10
November	1 054.60	1 130.20	954.20	881.70	897.30	593.90	997.00	1 053.90	780.90
2005									
February	1 049.50	1 144.30	975.30	903.60	919.30	616.80	999.90	1 067.50	802.40
May	1 044.60	1 149.30	968.00	894.80	911.30	614.80	993.80	1 067.60	797.70
QUEENSLAND									
2004									
February	925.20	998.80	837.80	805.70	819.20	547.40	885.10	934.50	695.70
May	941.70	1 010.30	837.30	810.30	823.60	541.40	890.90	941.20	691.50
August	965.50	1 030.90	856.70	815.10	828.80	565.40	908.40	955.80	712.30
November	957.10	1 022.10	856.40	812.80	825.80	584.90	904.80	950.10	726.40
2005									
February	973.40	1 051.70	857.80	834.50	849.40	581.60	925.30	977.50	728.80
May	1 012.40	1 069.80	872.50	868.40	878.90	595.80	955.50	997.50	740.10
SOUTH AUSTRALIA									
2004									
February	893.70	933.40	766.70	810.50	823.60	522.80	865.40	896.00	649.60
May	899.10	940.30	762.90	833.70	845.20	522.40	877.90	908.20	651.90
August	923.20	972.90	792.50	841.60	853.50	523.20	896.00	934.00	660.50
November	934.20	981.60	775.10	844.00	859.30	527.90	904.60	941.80	659.00
2005									
February	957.40	1 013.80	806.10	849.10	865.30	545.20	920.10	962.70	685.60
May	967.10	1 017.80	829.30	867.00	882.00	542.70	932.60	969.50	699.20
WESTERN AUSTRALIA									
2004									
February	1 027.50	1 088.40	917.60	795.10	807.50	531.30	948.60	992.50	736.90
May	1 039.90	1 096.30	928.20	798.50	810.90	538.40	956.60	998.20	739.30
August	1 040.10	1 105.70	941.60	801.60	814.60	544.00	961.80	1 010.10	753.60
November	1 081.30	1 147.90	966.70	806.00	819.60	543.90	989.00	1 038.00	767.60
2005									
February	1 107.20	1 174.50	991.20	819.90	832.80	545.40	1 012.00	1 060.90	784.90
May	1 121.70	1 194.90	989.70	853.40	867.80	558.80	1 034.00	1 088.60	786.40

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
TASMANIA									
2004									
February	869.00	913.20	762.20	761.80	773.50	506.90	836.00	870.20	638.90
May	891.00	937.10	793.90	774.00	785.90	552.60	851.70	886.50	679.80
August	920.90	969.10	812.50	791.90	801.10	553.10	876.10	911.50	688.40
November	923.60	980.00	823.60	793.10	803.90	558.10	880.10	920.00	696.30
2005									
February	920.30	978.20	839.70	810.00	823.30	575.30	884.40	928.00	714.10
May	928.70	977.80	835.00	811.90	827.50	580.00	890.00	928.00	715.80
NORTHERN TERRITORY									
2004									
February	985.10	1 039.30	829.90	863.00	880.20	608.50	933.90	973.50	716.50
May	1 010.30	1 071.50	826.20	874.00	889.90	624.70	951.70	992.20	721.60
August	1 033.90	1 090.90	853.20	887.40	903.50	633.50	970.30	1 008.90	740.80
November	1 046.90	1 108.30	871.80	904.70	921.70	643.00	982.00	1 024.00	752.30
2005									
February	1 088.20	1 156.90	886.30	908.30	927.20	654.90	1 007.70	1 055.20	767.80
May	1 106.10	1 169.70	955.80	908.60	928.10	643.30	1 020.30	1 063.60	793.30
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY									
2004									
February	1 149.20	1 169.90	999.00	965.70	973.80	737.20	1 069.40	1 084.70	866.00
May	1 147.30	1 170.50	1 007.40	967.30	974.90	746.90	1 065.40	1 083.90	868.80
August	1 169.60	1 190.50	1 020.50	978.00	986.40	750.00	1 082.60	1 095.00	875.40
November	1 202.30	1 224.00	1 064.30	1 014.40	1 020.00	785.50	1 117.30	1 132.10	915.10
2005									
February	1 238.40	1 263.60	1 087.10	1 047.60	1 056.10	818.30	1 152.40	1 169.90	944.70
May	1 256.90	1 281.30	1 101.50	1 064.60	1 073.20	826.50	1 167.40	1 187.20	952.10

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
NEW SOUTH WALES									
2004									
February	1 044.60	1 113.70	946.40	897.20	912.80	645.10	991.40	1 041.10	807.70
May	1 048.80	1 111.70	924.90	897.50	913.00	643.80	992.00	1 037.10	793.60
August	1 046.20	1 112.50	929.80	908.80	925.40	645.90	995.30	1 043.20	796.70
November	1 059.20	1 131.00	928.10	922.20	938.90	658.90	1 008.90	1 060.40	805.10
2005									
February	1 080.70	1 148.20	959.10	935.90	952.30	673.50	1 028.30	1 077.20	828.50
May	1 108.90	1 173.00	977.80	950.60	964.50	671.20	1 051.50	1 097.40	836.10
VICTORIA									
2004									
February	1 014.60	1 080.30	919.40	844.30	860.90	590.60	956.10	1 004.90	765.10
May	1 009.40	1 069.00	912.80	839.50	857.40	584.70	950.50	995.60	755.30
August	1 025.80	1 095.00	936.70	861.20	879.10	598.10	971.00	1 023.20	778.90
November	1 052.60	1 135.50	954.60	882.00	898.80	590.40	996.20	1 057.20	779.70
2005									
February	1 052.80	1 145.00	978.80	902.90	918.10	617.10	1 002.50	1 068.80	804.50
May	1 044.20	1 147.10	964.90	893.80	909.60	613.10	992.10	1 064.80	794.10
QUEENSLAND									
2004									
February	927.30	993.50	842.10	807.50	820.60	552.70	884.60	931.90	700.40
May	939.00	1 009.40	836.70	804.20	818.40	543.70	890.10	940.00	692.50
August	964.10	1 032.80	856.10	821.90	834.60	562.30	910.60	958.20	709.60
November	959.10	1 026.70	853.50	810.30	823.80	580.30	904.10	951.70	723.40
2005									
February	975.40	1 045.90	862.30	836.30	850.90	587.30	924.70	974.80	733.80
May	1 009.50	1 068.80	871.70	861.80	873.10	598.30	954.50	996.00	740.90
SOUTH AUSTRALIA									
2004									
February	897.00	937.50	771.00	812.60	824.80	526.60	868.10	899.00	652.70
May	897.40	940.40	765.20	830.70	842.90	516.40	876.00	909.20	647.50
August	921.00	966.70	785.50	841.30	854.30	526.70	895.00	930.10	662.50
November	934.80	983.40	775.10	845.10	859.70	526.50	904.50	941.60	658.10
2005									
February	960.70	1 018.30	810.70	851.20	866.50	549.30	923.00	966.00	688.90
May	965.40	1 018.00	832.20	864.00	879.50	536.60	930.70	970.60	694.60
WESTERN AUSTRALIA									
2004									
February	1 022.40	1 083.30	917.00	797.60	809.70	539.30	946.30	990.70	739.10
May	1 039.30	1 098.50	930.40	794.40	806.80	534.20	955.00	998.10	740.20
August	1 046.80	1 109.20	937.60	802.90	815.20	544.80	964.90	1 010.50	752.80
November	1 080.20	1 147.20	969.20	806.40	821.10	539.20	990.00	1 039.70	765.30
2005									
February	1 101.60	1 169.00	990.40	822.30	834.90	553.50	1 009.60	1 058.90	787.10
May	1 120.80	1 197.40	992.10	848.90	863.30	554.40	1 032.20	1 088.50	787.40

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
TASMANIA									
2004									
February	871.60	917.30	762.50	757.20	769.50	509.50	835.70	871.00	642.20
May	888.90	935.20	786.40	772.60	782.50	547.00	850.10	884.20	672.50
August	919.90	965.60	813.80	790.70	799.40	553.50	875.90	909.00	689.70
November	924.10	981.20	829.80	800.70	813.20	561.00	882.20	924.10	699.10
2005									
February	922.90	982.80	839.90	804.80	819.00	577.90	884.10	929.00	717.60
May	926.50	975.50	827.10	810.40	823.90	574.10	888.10	925.40	707.80
NORTHERN TERRITORY									
2004									
February	981.40	1 028.80	825.50	865.00	881.60	609.60	932.60	967.20	716.00
May	1 016.00	1 082.60	823.30	872.30	888.50	621.30	954.20	999.10	718.00
August	1 028.90	1 085.80	857.00	887.80	903.90	635.60	966.40	1 005.20	742.40
November	1 049.90	1 113.20	875.70	904.00	921.10	643.40	984.70	1 027.40	755.00
2005									
February	1 083.90	1 145.10	881.60	910.30	928.60	655.90	1 006.20	1 048.20	767.00
May	1 112.70	1 182.30	952.20	906.90	926.70	639.80	1 023.30	1 071.20	789.40
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY									
2004									
February	1 151.90	1 171.30	1 008.00	960.70	967.70	742.60	1 067.80	1 081.80	872.70
May	1 141.40	1 165.60	1 004.00	957.00	964.90	738.30	1 059.60	1 076.60	864.80
August	1 168.80	1 189.60	1 025.50	982.60	990.80	753.60	1 083.90	1 098.90	878.20
November	1 206.60	1 228.60	1 053.40	1 026.20	1 032.70	785.10	1 123.90	1 138.80	909.60
2005									
February	1 241.30	1 265.20	1 096.90	1 042.00	1 049.40	824.10	1 150.60	1 167.00	951.90
May	1 250.20	1 275.70	1 097.50	1 052.70	1 061.60	817.10	1 160.70	1 178.70	947.60

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Quarterly percentage change: **Trend**

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
NEW SOUTH WALES									
2004									
November	1.2	1.2	0.8	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.0
2005									
February	1.9	1.7	2.0	1.6	1.5	1.2	1.8	1.7	1.8
May	2.1	1.8	2.5	1.6	1.6	1.1	2.0	1.8	2.0
VICTORIA									
2004									
November	1.3	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.0	1.4	1.5	2.1	1.6
2005									
February	0.6	1.7	1.4	1.7	1.6	1.6	0.9	1.6	1.3
May	0.1	1.2	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.4	0.3	1.0	0.9
QUEENSLAND									
2004									
November	1.2	1.2	0.7	1.1	1.1	2.4	1.2	1.1	1.7
2005									
February	1.6	1.5	0.7	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.4
May	2.0	1.6	0.6	2.5	2.4	1.2	2.1	1.8	1.0
SOUTH AUSTRALIA									
2004									
November	2.0	2.4	1.6	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.6	1.9	1.6
2005									
February	1.8	1.9	2.0	0.8	1.0	1.5	1.4	1.5	2.1
May	1.5	1.5	2.1	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.3	2.3
WESTERN AUSTRALIA									
2004									
November	2.3	2.5	2.1	1.1	1.1	0.6	2.1	2.2	1.9
2005									
February	2.4	2.5	1.8	2.0	2.0	0.8	2.4	2.5	1.6
May	2.3	2.4	1.4	2.4	2.4	1.0	2.4	2.4	1.1
TASMANIA									
2004									
November	1.0	1.3	1.7	1.4	1.4	1.7	1.2	1.4	1.8
2005									
February	0.3	0.4	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.4	0.6	0.8	1.3
May	0.1	0.0	0.7	0.9	1.1	1.6	0.4	0.4	1.3
NORTHERN TERRITORY									
2004									
November	2.5	2.6	2.8	1.3	1.4	1.6	1.9	2.0	2.2
2005									
February	2.5	2.5	3.6	0.8	0.9	0.7	1.8	1.9	2.3
May	2.3	2.4	3.6	0.5	0.6	0.2	1.7	1.7	2.1
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY									
2004									
November	2.5	2.5	2.7	2.8	2.8	3.1	2.7	2.7	2.8
2005									
February	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.9	2.9	3.3	2.7	2.8	2.9
May	2.2	2.4	2.2	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.4	2.6	2.5

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Quarterly percentage change: **Seasonally adjusted**

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
NEW SOUTH WALES									
2004									
November	0.7	0.9	-0.8	1.2	1.2	1.9	0.8	1.1	0.6
2005									
February	2.7	2.3	3.7	1.4	1.5	1.2	2.5	2.1	2.5
May	2.0	1.8	2.8	2.1	1.8	0.7	2.0	1.9	2.0
VICTORIA									
2004									
November	2.8	2.9	1.8	2.5	2.2	0.1	2.7	2.9	0.6
2005									
February	-0.5	1.2	2.2	2.5	2.5	3.9	0.3	1.3	2.7
May	-0.5	0.4	-0.7	-1.0	-0.9	-0.3	-0.6	0.0	-0.6
QUEENSLAND									
2004									
November	-0.9	-0.8	0.0	-0.3	-0.4	3.5	-0.4	-0.6	2.0
2005									
February	1.7	2.9	0.2	2.7	2.8	-0.6	2.3	2.9	0.3
May	4.0	1.7	1.7	4.1	3.5	2.4	3.3	2.0	1.5
SOUTH AUSTRALIA									
2004									
November	1.2	0.9	-2.2	0.3	0.7	0.9	1.0	0.8	-0.2
2005									
February	2.5	3.3	4.0	0.6	0.7	3.3	1.7	2.2	4.0
May	1.0	0.4	2.9	2.1	1.9	-0.4	1.4	0.7	2.0
WESTERN AUSTRALIA									
2004									
November	4.0	3.8	2.7	0.5	0.6	0.0	2.8	2.8	1.9
2005									
February	2.4	2.3	2.5	1.7	1.6	0.3	2.3	2.2	2.3
May	1.3	1.7	-0.2	4.1	4.2	2.5	2.2	2.6	0.2
TASMANIA									
2004									
November	0.3	1.1	1.4	0.2	0.3	0.9	0.5	0.9	1.1
2005									
February	-0.4	-0.2	1.9	2.1	2.4	3.1	0.5	0.9	2.6
May	0.9	0.0	-0.6	0.2	0.5	0.8	0.6	0.0	0.2
NORTHERN TERRITORY									
2004									
November	1.3	1.6	2.2	1.9	2.0	1.5	1.2	1.5	1.6
2005									
February	3.9	4.4	1.7	0.4	0.6	1.8	2.6	3.0	2.1
May	1.6	1.1	7.8	0.0	0.1	-1.8	1.3	0.8	3.3
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY									
2004									
November	2.8	2.8	4.3	3.7	3.4	4.7	3.2	3.4	4.5
2005									
February	3.0	3.2	2.1	3.3	3.5	4.2	3.1	3.3	3.2
May	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.6	1.6	1.0	1.3	1.5	0.8

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
NEW SOUTH WALES									
2004									
November	1.2	1.7	-0.2	1.5	1.5	2.0	1.4	1.7	1.1
2005									
February	2.0	1.5	3.3	1.5	1.4	2.2	1.9	1.6	2.9
May	2.6	2.2	2.0	1.6	1.3	-0.3	2.3	1.9	0.9
VICTORIA									
2004									
November	2.6	3.7	1.9	2.4	2.2	-1.3	2.6	3.3	0.1
2005									
February	0.0	0.8	2.5	2.4	2.1	4.5	0.6	1.1	3.2
May	-0.8	0.2	-1.4	-1.0	-0.9	-0.6	-1.0	-0.4	-1.3
QUEENSLAND									
2004									
November	-0.5	-0.6	-0.3	-1.4	-1.3	3.2	-0.7	-0.7	1.9
2005									
February	1.7	1.9	1.0	3.2	3.3	1.2	2.3	2.4	1.4
May	3.5	2.2	1.1	3.1	2.6	1.9	3.2	2.2	1.0
SOUTH AUSTRALIA									
2004									
November	1.5	1.7	-1.3	0.4	0.6	0.0	1.1	1.2	-0.7
2005									
February	2.8	3.6	4.6	0.7	0.8	4.3	2.0	2.6	4.7
May	0.5	0.0	2.7	1.5	1.5	-2.3	0.8	0.5	0.8
WESTERN AUSTRALIA									
2004									
November	3.2	3.4	3.4	0.4	0.7	-1.0	2.6	2.9	1.7
2005									
February	2.0	1.9	2.2	2.0	1.7	2.6	2.0	1.8	2.9
May	1.7	2.4	0.2	3.2	3.4	0.2	2.2	2.8	0.0
TASMANIA									
2004									
November	0.5	1.6	2.0	1.3	1.7	1.4	0.7	1.7	1.4
2005									
February	-0.1	0.2	1.2	0.5	0.7	3.0	0.2	0.5	2.6
May	0.4	-0.7	-1.5	0.7	0.6	-0.7	0.4	-0.4	-1.4
NORTHERN TERRITORY									
2004									
November	2.0	2.5	2.2	1.8	1.9	1.2	1.9	2.2	1.7
2005									
February	3.2	2.9	0.7	0.7	0.8	1.9	2.2	2.0	1.6
May	2.7	3.2	8.0	-0.4	-0.2	-2.4	1.7	2.2	2.9
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY									
2004									
November	3.2	3.3	2.7	4.4	4.2	4.2	3.7	3.6	3.6
2005									
February	2.9	3.0	4.1	1.5	1.6	5.0	2.4	2.5	4.7
May	0.7	0.8	0.1	1.0	1.2	-0.9	0.9	1.0	-0.5

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
NEW SOUTH WALES									
May									
2003	5.9	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.7	6.0	6.3	6.6
2004	1.9	2.1	1.0	5.0	5.2	5.9	3.0	3.2	3.5
2005	5.5	5.1	4.8	5.6	5.4	4.7	5.7	5.4	4.9
VICTORIA									
May									
2003	5.8	5.8	6.6	4.5	4.7	6.4	5.2	5.4	6.4
2004	4.7	5.3	3.4	2.4	2.7	1.9	4.1	4.7	3.3
2005	3.4	6.8	5.9	6.8	6.4	4.9	4.4	6.6	4.9
QUEENSLAND									
May									
2003	5.4	5.3	2.6	4.7	4.8	0.0	4.5	5.3	1.7
2004	5.2	6.5	6.9	5.7	5.8	6.3	6.0	6.1	6.4
2005	6.0	5.3	2.8	6.1	5.8	7.8	6.0	5.3	5.7
SOUTH AUSTRALIA									
May									
2003	7.9	5.7	3.2	6.6	6.6	0.0	7.4	5.8	0.9
2004	1.1	0.3	-3.4	4.5	4.2	3.6	2.2	1.6	-0.5
2005	7.2	7.9	6.6	4.0	4.4	4.6	6.1	6.6	6.8
WESTERN AUSTRALIA									
May									
2003	5.7	5.1	4.5	2.8	2.9	3.6	5.0	4.6	4.4
2004	4.6	5.1	6.7	4.7	4.8	3.4	4.6	5.0	5.3
2005	8.9	9.5	7.4	5.9	5.9	3.0	8.4	8.9	6.4
TASMANIA									
May									
2003	3.7	3.7	6.2	4.0	3.5	6.4	4.1	4.0	6.3
2004	3.3	3.9	2.7	2.1	1.8	10.1	2.8	3.1	6.6
2005	3.6	4.3	6.5	4.9	5.5	7.7	4.1	4.7	7.3
NORTHERN TERRITORY									
May									
2003	5.5	6.5	6.2	6.7	6.9	7.7	6.1	6.8	7.0
2004	5.9	5.0	-0.1	6.6	6.4	0.5	6.2	5.5	-0.1
2005	9.7	10.1	12.2	4.2	4.5	4.4	7.3	7.6	8.7
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY									
May									
2003	11.5	9.9	12.9	6.0	5.8	3.2	9.3	8.3	7.9
2004	0.9	1.4	2.4	2.9	3.1	8.9	1.6	2.0	5.5
2005	9.3	9.6	9.8	10.4	10.4	11.9	9.7	9.9	10.5

States & territories	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
LEVEL									
New South Wales	22.20	21.70	24.40	18.20	18.20	13.70	16.90	16.50	16.30
Victoria	16.90	36.70	36.00	14.40	14.80	12.50	14.00	27.30	23.80
Queensland	28.90	29.40	30.40	19.60	19.70	17.10	23.20	23.50	21.70
South Australia	17.70	18.10	40.20	8.50	8.50	43.70	12.70	12.80	40.70
Western Australia	24.30	27.40	30.80	14.80	15.00	16.00	18.20	20.80	20.50
Tasmania	38.30	49.40	37.70	19.30	19.00	15.50	30.00	38.00	26.50
Northern Territory	33.00	31.40	40.80	15.50	16.10	33.20	20.70	20.30	34.20
Australian Capital Territory	36.80	36.30	43.10	23.00	23.40	31.00	26.10	26.30	28.70
Australia	10.50	13.50	14.20	8.40	8.40	7.60	8.30	10.20	9.90
QUARTERLY MOVEMENT									
New South Wales	17.40	15.60	13.30	11.30	11.40	9.20	12.70	11.60	9.30
Victoria	12.10	12.30	11.70	11.10	11.20	9.60	9.60	9.80	9.90
Queensland	22.90	22.70	22.20	18.80	18.60	12.90	19.30	19.00	16.10
South Australia	13.20	14.40	25.00	8.00	8.30	9.40	9.10	9.90	18.30
Western Australia	15.00	17.40	20.00	11.60	11.80	9.30	12.50	14.30	12.70
Tasmania	28.70	40.90	38.20	7.70	6.60	15.20	21.80	30.30	26.30
Northern Territory	23.50	23.80	26.50	11.90	12.20	16.50	14.90	15.30	17.20
Australian Capital Territory	21.10	21.40	35.70	13.40	13.60	27.40	14.50	14.70	28.60
Australia	8.00	7.70	7.40	6.00	6.00	4.70	6.30	6.00	5.40

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Standard errors—Sector

Sector	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
LEVEL									
Private sector	12.70	16.60	16.80	11.80	11.80	9.20	10.70	13.30	12.10
Public sector	5.30	5.30	6.60	2.20	2.20	7.20	3.50	3.40	6.80
All sectors	10.50	13.50	14.20	8.40	8.40	7.60	8.30	10.20	9.90
QUARTERLY MOVEMENT									
Private sector	9.80	9.30	8.60	8.50	8.50	5.80	8.10	7.80	6.50
Public sector	4.00	3.80	5.30	1.90	2.00	6.70	2.80	2.70	6.10
All sectors	8.00	7.70	7.40	6.00	6.00	4.70	6.30	6.00	5.40

	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full- time adult ordinary time earnings	Full- time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full- time adult ordinary time earnings	Full- time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full- time adult ordinary time earnings	Full- time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
Industry	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

LEVEL

Mining	40.90	34.20	34.70	25.40	23.80	42.50	37.70	32.40	34.60
Manufacturing	20.10	23.70	23.30	22.40	23.80	25.90	19.20	22.40	22.00
Electricity, gas and water supply	22.10	20.60	21.20	11.10	11.30	16.70	20.50	19.70	21.50
Construction	48.70	50.90	49.00	66.60	65.40	57.70	46.90	46.90	43.80
Wholesale trade	50.50	50.30	47.20	22.80	22.40	23.20	41.80	41.80	38.00
Retail trade	13.40	21.90	23.60	14.30	14.20	10.30	11.60	17.20	16.60
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	27.10	29.30	17.70	20.40	26.80	18.20	18.60	21.70	15.50
Transport and storage	25.20	26.70	25.90	26.90	27.60	45.00	21.70	23.30	28.90
Communication services	14.60	14.30	18.50	16.20	16.10	31.00	11.00	11.60	22.20
Finance and insurance	44.00	43.80	46.20	24.80	24.70	23.20	32.50	32.40	31.60
Property and business services	37.80	63.40	64.70	27.80	27.80	36.20	31.30	48.20	47.20
Government administration and defence	11.60	10.70	12.50	5.70	5.50	10.30	8.20	7.50	10.70
Education	11.70	11.00	38.30	12.40	12.40	15.90	10.20	9.80	19.30
Health and community services	46.40	46.20	39.40	40.20	40.50	16.30	33.80	34.20	17.30
Cultural and recreational services	57.80	56.20	58.60	17.30	18.30	38.10	38.10	38.10	46.00
Personal and other services	33.20	34.80	79.00	24.70	24.10	34.10	25.10	25.30	46.10
All industries	10.50	13.50	14.20	8.40	8.40	7.60	8.30	10.20	9.90

QUARTERLY MOVEMENT

Mining	25.60	26.20	24.80	23.00	18.70	40.30	22.30	23.30	25.20
Manufacturing	13.70	13.60	12.60	16.30	16.00	21.90	12.90	12.60	13.70
Electricity, gas and water supply	11.80	11.40	11.30	6.00	5.90	10.40	9.60	8.70	9.30
Construction	43.20	39.10	34.60	61.70	59.70	50.90	42.10	36.60	30.30
Wholesale trade	45.10	43.50	40.10	14.40	14.50	21.90	36.30	34.90	31.90
Retail trade	13.10	13.30	11.70	9.50	9.60	6.60	9.10	9.20	8.40
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	21.10	25.10	16.70	15.20	15.60	11.30	15.80	17.80	10.60
Transport and storage	19.20	19.10	20.60	17.80	18.00	39.20	16.00	16.20	22.50
Communication services	11.90	12.70	18.90	13.80	14.40	29.40	9.80	10.80	18.80
Finance and insurance	28.30	28.00	29.60	27.90	27.70	23.70	25.00	24.60	25.20
Property and business services	29.10	29.00	28.30	21.20	21.20	16.80	24.20	24.10	21.90
Government administration and defence	9.60	9.10	10.10	4.40	4.40	5.40	7.10	6.80	7.60
Education	9.50	9.00	9.20	16.60	16.60	13.90	11.80	11.50	11.20
Health and community services	42.00	43.10	32.70	17.90	18.20	10.60	21.20	21.90	11.80
Cultural and recreational services	31.10	31.80	48.60	30.40	30.20	27.20	24.40	25.00	29.20
Personal and other services	13.50	14.90	30.00	21.10	22.10	20.50	13.00	14.30	16.50
All industries	8.00	7.70	7.40	6.00	6.00	4.70	6.30	6.00	5.40

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication contains estimates of average weekly earnings based on information obtained from a sample survey of employers.

CONCEPTS, SOURCES AND METHODS

2 Descriptions of the underlying concepts of Australia's average weekly earnings statistics, and the sources and methods used in compiling these estimates, are presented in *Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001) which is available on the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>.

SCOPE AND COVERAGE

3 All wage and salary earners who received pay for the reference period are represented in the Survey of Average Weekly Earnings (AWE), except:

- members of the Australian permanent defence forces
- employees of enterprises primarily engaged in agriculture, forestry and fishing
- employees in private households employing staff
- employees of overseas embassies, consulates, etc.
- employees based outside Australia
- employees on workers' compensation who are not paid through the payroll.

4 Also excluded are the following persons who are not regarded as employees for the purposes of this survey:

- casual employees who did not receive pay during the reference period
- employees on leave without pay who did not receive pay during the reference period
- employees on strike, or stood down, who did not receive pay during the reference period
- directors who are not paid a salary
- proprietors/partners of unincorporated businesses
- self-employed persons such as subcontractors, owner/drivers, consultants
- persons paid solely by commission without a retainer.

5 The sample for the AWE survey, like most Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) business surveys, is selected from the ABS Business Register which is primarily based on registrations to the Australian Taxation Office's (ATO) Pay As You Go Withholding (PAYGW) scheme (and prior to 1 June 2000 the Group Employer (GE) scheme). The population is updated quarterly to take account of:

- new businesses
- businesses which have ceased employing
- changes in employment levels
- changes in industry
- other general business changes.

6 The estimates include an allowance for the time it takes newly registered businesses to be added to the survey population.

7 Businesses which have ceased employing are identified when the ATO cancels their PAYGW registration. In addition businesses which do not remit under the PAYGW scheme for the previous five quarters are removed from the frame.

SURVEY DESIGN

8 A sample of approximately 5,500 employer units is selected from the ABS Business Register to ensure adequate state and industry representation. The sample is updated each quarter to reflect changes in the ABS Business Register. These changes arise from the emergence of new businesses, takeovers and mergers, changes to industry classification, changes in the number of employees, and businesses which have ceased operations. Such updating of the register can contribute to changes in the estimates of average weekly earnings.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

SURVEY DESIGN *continued*

9 The statistical unit for the survey comprises all the activities of an employer in a particular state or territory based on the Australian Business Number (ABN) unit or Type of Activity Unit (TAU) (see paragraphs 13 and 17). Each statistical unit is classified to an industry which reflects the predominant activity of the business. The statistical units are stratified by state, sector, industry and employment size, and within each stratum, statistical units are selected with equal probability.

CHANGES TO THE ABS BUSINESS REGISTER

10 The introduction of The New Tax System in July 2000 had a number of significant implications for ABS business statistics, including changes to the populations for most business surveys. Refer to paragraphs 5 and 12. These implications are discussed in general terms in the information papers: *ABS Statistics and The New Tax System* (cat. no. 1358.0) and *Improvements in ABS Economic Statistics [arising from The New Tax System]* (cat. no. 1372.0). In relation to the AWE survey, these changes caused a greater than normal rotation of businesses included in the sample for the May 2001 and August 2002 surveys.

STATISTICAL UNITS DEFINED ON THE ABS BUSINESS REGISTER

11 The ABS uses an economic statistics units model on the ABS Business Register to describe the characteristics of businesses, and the structural relationships between related businesses. The units model is also used to break groups of related businesses into relatively homogeneous components that can provide data to the ABS.

12 In mid-2002, to better use the information available as a result of The New Tax System, the ABS changed its economic statistics units model. The new units model allocates businesses to one of two sub-populations. The vast majority of businesses are in what is called the ATO Maintained Population, while the remaining businesses are in the ABS Maintained Population. Together, these two sub-populations make up the ABS Business Register population.

ATO Maintained Population

13 Most businesses and organisations in Australia need to obtain an Australian Business Number, and are then included on the ATO Australian Business Register. Most of these businesses have simple structures; therefore the unit registered for an ABN will satisfy ABS statistical requirements. For these businesses, the ABS has aligned its statistical units structure with the ABN unit. The businesses with simple structures constitute the ATO Maintained Population, and the ABN unit is used as the economic statistics unit for all economic collections.

ABS Maintained Population

14 For the population of businesses where the ABN unit is not suitable for ABS statistical requirements, the ABS maintains its own units structure through direct contact with businesses. These businesses constitute the ABS Maintained Population. This population consists typically of large, complex and diverse businesses. The new statistical units model described below has been introduced to cover such businesses.

15 Enterprise Group: This is a unit covering all the operations in Australia of one or more legal entities under common ownership and/or control. It covers all the operations in Australia of legal entities which are related in terms of the current Corporations Law (as amended by the *Corporations Legislation Amendment Act 1991*), including legal entities such as companies, trusts, and partnerships. Majority ownership is not required for control to be exercised.

16 Enterprise: The enterprise is an institutional unit comprising (i) a single legal entity or business entity, or (ii) more than one legal entity or business entity within the same Enterprise Group and in the same institutional subsector (i.e. they are all classified to a single Standard Institutional Sector Classification of Australia subsector).

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

ABS Maintained Population
continued

17 Type of Activity Unit (TAU): The TAU comprises one or more business entities, sub-entities or branches of a business entity within an Enterprise Group that can report production and employment data for similar economic activities. When a minimum set of data items is available, a TAU is created which covers all the operations within an industry subdivision (and the TAU is classified to the relevant subdivision of the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification [ANZSIC]). Where a business cannot supply adequate data for each industry, a TAU is formed which contains activity in more than one industry subdivision.

NOTES ON ESTIMATES

18 Average weekly earnings statistics represent average gross (before tax) earnings of employees and do not relate to average award rates nor to the earnings of the 'average person'. Estimates of average weekly earnings are derived by dividing estimates of weekly total earnings by estimates of number of employees. Changes in the averages may be affected not only by changes in the level of earnings of employees but also by changes in the overall composition of the wage and salary earner segment of the labour force.

19 There are several aspects which can contribute to compositional changes, including variations over time in the proportions of full-time, part-time, casual and junior employees; variations in the occupational distribution within and across industries; variations in the distribution of employment between industries; and variations in the proportion of male and female employees. Such effects may apply differently within different states and territories, and over time.

COMPARABILITY WITH WAGE PRICE INDEX

20 Period-to-period movements for the Average Weekly Earnings (AWE) series are not comparable with those for the Wage Price Index (WPI) (previously known as the Wage Cost Index). It is important to recognise that the two series have different purposes and concepts and use different sample selection and estimation methodologies.

21 The AWE survey is designed to measure the level of average earnings in Australia at a point in time. It does this by collecting information from businesses on their number of employees and their total gross weekly earnings for a specific pay period each quarter. The WPI is a price index designed to measure the change over time in the price of labour. It does this by pricing specific jobs, in terms of wage and salary payments to employees occupying the jobs, and collecting information from businesses each quarter on price changes in those jobs. It is unaffected by changes in the quality and quantity of labour purchased by employers.

22 In addition to changes in the price of labour, AWE estimates are affected by changes in hours worked and by compositional changes in the employee workforce (see paragraphs 18 and 19). The WPI prices a fixed quantum of labour services for each job, and hence changes to base earnings resulting from increases in hours worked or from changes in the composition of the employee workforce will not be reflected in the index.

23 For further information on the WPI, please refer to the Explanatory Notes of *Labour Price Index, Australia* (cat. no. 6345.0) and the *Information Paper: Labour Price Index, Australia, 2004* (cat. no. 6363.0) which are available on the ABS web site.

EFFECTS OF ROUNDING

24 Estimates of average weekly earnings are rounded to the nearest 10 cents.

25 Percentage changes are calculated on the actual values and may differ from calculations based on rounded estimates.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

HISTORICAL SERIES

26 The AWE series was introduced in August 1981 when it replaced the average weekly earnings series based principally on information from payroll tax returns. Revised estimates of average weekly earnings for the period August 1981 to November 1983 were included in *Average Weekly Earnings, States and Australia, March Quarter 1984* (cat. no. 6302.0) published on 12 July 1984. Users who need a measure of the movement in earnings for a period which spans both the payroll tax based and employer survey series should refer to table 3 in that publication which presents both series linked to a common index base (August 1981 = 100.0).

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

27 Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences can be more clearly recognised. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove the irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular series. Influences that are volatile or unsystematic can still make it difficult to interpret the movement of the series even after adjustment for seasonal variation. This means that quarter-to-quarter movements of seasonally adjusted estimates may not be reliable indicators of trend behaviour.

28 The series have been seasonally adjusted from September 1983 and the historical series can be made available on request. The seasonal factors are reviewed annually to take account of each additional year's original data. The most recent review, using original estimates to November 2004, took place in time for inclusion in the February 2005 estimates.

29 Details about the method of seasonal adjustment of these series are available on request.

TREND ESTIMATES

30 Seasonally adjusted estimates can be smoothed to reduce the impact of irregular or non-seasonal influences. Smoothed seasonally adjusted series are called trend estimates.

31 The ABS considers that trend estimates provide a more reliable guide to the underlying direction of the original estimates and are more suitable than either the seasonally adjusted or original estimates for most business decisions and policy advice.

32 The trend estimates in this publication, obtained by dampening out the irregular component from the seasonally adjusted series, are calculated using a centred 7-term Henderson moving average of the seasonally adjusted series. Estimates for the three most recent quarters cannot be calculated using this centred average method; instead an asymmetric average is used. This can lead to revisions in the trend estimates for the last three quarters when data become available for later quarters. Revisions of trend estimates will also occur with revisions to the original data and re-estimation of seasonal adjustment factors.

33 If a series is highly volatile then the trend estimates will be subject to greater revision for the latest few quarters as new data become available. However, it is important to note that this does not make the trend series inferior to the seasonally adjusted or original series.

34 For more information, refer to *Information Paper: A Guide to Interpreting Time Series – Monitoring Trends* (cat. no. 1349.0) which is available on the ABS web site.

35 Three feature articles which have appeared in the ABS monthly publication *Australian Economic Indicators* (cat. no. 1350.0) may also be of interest:

- Picking Turning Points in the Economy (April 1991)
- Smarter Data Use (March 1992)
- Direct Movement Estimator for the Survey of Average Weekly Earnings (August 1998).

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

36 The following publications contain related information and are available from ABS Bookshops:

- *Australian Labour Market Statistics* (cat. no. 6105.0)—issued quarterly
- *Average Weekly Earnings, Australia 1941–1990* (cat. no. 6350.0)
- *Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership, Australia* (cat. no. 6310.0)—issued annually
- *Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia* (cat. no. 6306.0)—issued biennially
- *Information Paper: Improvements in ABS Economic Statistics [Arising from The New Tax System]* (cat. no. 1372.0)—issued 6 May 2002
- *Information Paper: Average Weekly Earnings, Australia, Changes to Time Series Spreadsheets* (cat. no. 6308.0)—issued 19 May 2005
- *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0)—issued monthly
- *Labour Force Projections, Australia 1999–2016* (cat. no. 6260.0)
- *Labour Price Index, Australia* (cat. no. 6345.0)—issued quarterly
- *Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001)
- *Wage and Salary Earners, Public Sector, Australia* (cat. no. 6248.0.55.001)—issued quarterly.

37 Current publications and other products released by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (cat. no. 1101.0). The Catalogue is available from any ABS office or the ABS web site. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the web site which details products to be released in the week ahead.

ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

38 As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant data available on request. Details of additional data available are shown in the Appendix on page 32 of this publication.

APPENDIX ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

INTRODUCTION

As well as the statistics included in this publication, other data are available from the Survey of Average Weekly Earnings on request. These data can be produced for clients as customised reports. The variables are listed below.

HOW TO PLACE AN ORDER

Firstly, determine the variables (see following) that you require estimates for. A covering letter indicating these requirements and the intended uses of the data requested should be addressed to:

Labour Employer Surveys Section
Australian Bureau of Statistics
GPO Box K881
PERTH WA 6842

CONTACT OFFICER

If you wish to discuss individual requests, especially in regard to reliability of estimates for particular cross-classifications and the charges involved, please telephone Manpreet Singh on Perth (08) 9360 5304.

VARIABLES

The following variables are available from this survey.

Note: The more variables included in any one tabulation the more likely it is that confidentiality provisions associated with the data will be invoked and some data suppressed.

Type of estimate

Original
Seasonally adjusted
Trend

Composition of earnings

Full-time adult ordinary time earnings
Full-time adult total earnings
All employees total earnings

States and territories

New South Wales
Victoria
Queensland
South Australia
Western Australia
Tasmania
Northern Territory
Australian Capital Territory

Sector

Private sector
Public sector

Sex

Males
Females
Persons

Industry (ANZSIC classification)

ANZSIC Division (1-digit code)—as shown in table 10
ANZSIC Subdivision (2-digit code)
ANZSIC Group (3-digit code)
ANZSIC Class (4-digit code)

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

- 1** As the estimates in this publication are based on information relating to a sample of employers, they are subject to sampling variability. That is, they may differ from the estimates that would have been produced if the information had been obtained from all employers. This difference, called *sampling error*, should not be confused with inaccuracy that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by respondents or in processing by the ABS. Such inaccuracy is referred to as *non-sampling error* and may occur in any enumeration whether it be a full count or a sample. Efforts have been made to reduce non-sampling error by careful design of questionnaires, detailed checking of returns and quality control of processing.
- 2** The sampling error associated with any estimate can be estimated from the sample results. One measure of sampling error is given by the *standard error* which indicates the degree to which an estimate may vary from the value which would have been obtained from a full enumeration (the 'true value'). There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate differs from the true value by less than one standard error, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.
- 3** An example of the use of a standard error is as follows. If the estimated average earnings was \$500.00 with a standard error of \$4.00, then there would be about two chances in three that a full enumeration would have given an estimate in the range \$496.00 to \$504.00 and about nineteen chances in twenty that it would be in the range \$492.00 to \$508.00.
- 4** An example of the use of a standard error for a quarterly change estimate is as follows. If the estimate of quarterly change between two quarters was \$1.50 and the standard error on this estimate was \$1.00, then there would be about two chances in three that a full enumeration would have given a quarterly change estimate in the range +\$0.50 to +\$2.50 and about nineteen chances in twenty that it would be in the range -\$0.50 to +\$3.50.
- 5** Quarterly movements in estimates of average weekly earnings are considered to be statistically significant where they exceed two standard errors.
- 6** Another measure of the sampling error is the *relative standard error*, which is obtained by expressing the standard error as a percentage of the estimate.

GLOSSARY

Adult employees	Adult employees are those employees 21 years of age or over and those employees who, although under 21 years of age, are paid at the full adult rate for their occupation.
Average weekly earnings	Average Weekly Earnings statistics represent average gross (before tax) earnings of employees and do not relate to average award rates nor to the earnings of the 'average person'. Estimates of average weekly earnings are derived by dividing estimates of weekly total earnings by estimates of number of employees.
Employees	Employees refer to all wage and salary earners (as defined in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Explanatory Notes) who received pay for any part of the reference period.
Full-time employees	Full-time employees are permanent, temporary and casual employees who normally work the agreed or award hours for a full-time employee in their occupation and received pay for any part of the reference period. If agreed or award hours do not apply, employees are regarded as full-time if they ordinarily work 35 hours or more per week.
Reference period	Reference period for the survey refers to the last pay period ending on or before the third Friday of the middle month of the quarter. Where a pay period is fortnightly or monthly, etc., the employer is requested to report only one week's proportion. The reference period for the current survey is the week ending 20 May 2005.
Sector	Public sector includes all local government authorities and government departments, agencies and authorities created by, or reporting to the Commonwealth and state parliaments. All remaining employees are classified as private sector.
Weekly ordinary time earnings	Weekly ordinary time earnings refers to one week's earnings of employees for the reference period attributable to award, standard or agreed hours of work. It is calculated before taxation and any other deductions (e.g. superannuation, board and lodging) have been made. Included in ordinary time earnings are award, workplace and enterprise bargaining payments, and other agreed base rates of pay, over-award and over-agreed payments, penalty payments, shift and other allowances; commissions and retainers; bonuses and similar payments related to the reference period; payments under incentive or piecework; payments under profit sharing schemes normally paid each pay period; payment for leave taken during the reference period; all workers' compensation payments made through the payroll; and salary payments made to directors. Excluded are overtime payments, retrospective pay, pay in advance, leave loadings, severance, termination and redundancy payments, and other payments not related to the reference period.
Weekly total earnings	Weekly total earnings of employees is equal to weekly ordinary time earnings plus weekly overtime earnings.

FOR MORE INFORMATION . . .

<i>INTERNET</i>	www.abs.gov.au the ABS web site is the best place to start for access to summary data from our latest publications, information about the ABS, advice about upcoming releases, our catalogue, and Australia Now—a statistical profile.
<i>LIBRARY</i>	A range of ABS publications is available from public and tertiary libraries Australia-wide. Contact your nearest library to determine whether it has the ABS statistics you require, or visit our web site for a list of libraries.
<i>CPI INFOLINE</i>	For current and historical Consumer Price Index data, call 1902 981 074 (call cost 77c per minute).
<i>DIAL-A-STATISTIC</i>	This service now provides only current Consumer Price Index statistics call 1900 986 400 (call cost 77c per minute).

INFORMATION SERVICE

Data already published that can be provided within five minutes will be free of charge. Our information consultants can also help you to access the full range of ABS information—ABS user pays services can be tailored to your needs, time frame and budget. Publications may be purchased. Specialists are on hand to help you with analytical or methodological advice.

<i>PHONE</i>	1300 135 070
<i>EMAIL</i>	client.services@abs.gov.au
<i>FAX</i>	1300 135 211
<i>POST</i>	Client Services, ABS, GPO Box 796, Sydney NSW 2001

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